

Department of State
 Division of Historical Resources
 Bureau of Florida Folklife Programs

FLORIDA FOLKLIFE ARCHIVES

AUDIO TAPE LOG

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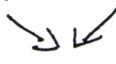

Accession Number: _____
 Collector: Rosenberg
 Informant: Ralph Dupree
 Date & Place: 7 January 1989, Esto Town Hall, Esto, FL.
 Equipment Used: Sony Walkman
 Tape Brand: 8 Reel Size: _____ Speed: _____
 Cassette Brand: Studio Pro C/30 C/60 C/90

Time (Foot)	Place Names, Proper Names, Extraneous Noises, Etc.	Subjects Discussed
000	Jan Rosenberg, Florida Folklife Programs, Ralph Dupree, Esto Florida, Forest Industries Products Survey, Holmes County, Florida	
005		Biographical: "I'm Ralph Dupree, I was born and reared in Esto, Florida, Holmes County." Father was a turpentine stiller and barrel maker
011		RD Learned to make barrels at 12 years of age, and made barrels until he was 21 years old
014		RD was born in 1912
016		RD's father taught him to make barrels.
018		How do you make a barrel?
021		RD: The way he taught me to make barrels, I started at 12 years of age, making them JR: Uh huh RD: And I made them until I was 21 years of age. JR: Uh huh.

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023		RD: " But the way he taught me, we had - The mechanism of making a barrel, you have two types of hoops. Two wooden hoops. And the first wooden hoop - to my best recollection - was ... "number 26" they call it. ... They was purchased at West Florida Naval Company at Pensacola in those days ...
030	West Florida Naval Store Company, Pensacola, Florida...	
034		RD learned to make barrels and became a professional barrel maker. Rosin barrels Syrup barrels Turpentine barrels
039		JR: How do you make a barrel? RD: The way you make a barrel, you take that first hoop, that 26 inch hoop, and we have a stave that is 30 inches long. And it usually took about 20 or 21 of them - the width they was I don't remember the width, but I do remember the length. And it took 20 or 21 to make this barrel.
045		And you set it up first in that wooden hoop and then you put another wooden hoop over that one, and then you have a set of "chimers" they call it. And the first chime, you chime out ... And you chime it out to cut a groove in the top of those wooden staves we called it, so the head can be fitted in the barrel. Then after you cut that with the chimers, I would say the chimers cut about a $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch chime. ... about a half inch chime. And then after we cut the half-inch chimes, we take a compass, and we put that compass in the chime that we cut, and we step it around - it's made in the shape of an "A" and it's - it will make a round circle. But you step it around in that barrel seven times, and then you have a set - screw on the compass to eliminate the size. And after you eliminate the size ... with the compass, then you take two one-inch thick boards about ... 36 inches wide - take two of them. And you - they are straight edged

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074		<p>And you butt the the edges together so you'll have two pieces of the head you gon' to put in the barrel.</p> <p>And then you take the compass and put it in the middle and make a round circle....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - take the head and cut out of the board with a short handled axe - take a staple holder and put head into chime - tighten tighten wooden hoop. * becomes water tight - take hoop iron - an inch wide - measure iron around barrel - cut iron with cooper the hammer
097		<p>RD: You brace the hoop iron. you take a rivet and place the hoop iron on an anvil that has a hole in the anvil for the rivet when you hit it with the hammer to push through. You set the rivet on the hoop and take the cooper hammer and hit it and it goes in a hole in the anvil.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - take both pieces of hoop, put together - brace the rivet to make hoop - knock wooden hoop off and make a second metal hoop to go below it about six inches
111		<p>RD: And then you take a "driver" they call it. It's a little instrument that's a little steel instrument that has a round groove in the bottom of it. And then you take that hammer and hammer that hoop on tight with that hoop driver.</p>
121		<p>Turn barrel upside down. Put it in a vice.</p> <p>RD: You draw it up, you put a wire cable around the top of it. Then you start your process of, we call it "tighten it up," and you tighten it up. At that end, it will equal the same thing at the other end equal when you made the first hoop... when you made the first head,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - repeat the process of chiming and hoop placing. - release vice

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148		<u>Materials</u> Made of pine timber or cypress
151		Barrels are not stained. The companies you sold to stained them. Not stained for rosin or syrup.
164		Stopped making barrels when turpentine distilling stopped - local manufacturing. West Florida Naval Store stills turpentine.
174	West Florida Naval Store Cairo, Georgia	Another still
177		On distilling - cook time for 3 hours, spirit will come out - put hot liquid in barrels, is rosin
		Uses of rosin - paint - varnish - hard as a brick when cold - Violin bows.
193		RD: draws JL a barrel.
200		Lawrence Williams tells JL that RD could play the barrel.
204		RD's memories of turpentine On turpentine turpentine - go to tree with an "apin axe" - hit tree at 2" above root with a Maul on axe - stick in an apron, about .026" thick and 24" long. - pull axe out, slip apin into hole

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272	Dippers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - take a 10 penny nail and a square metal cup, put n 4" below apron. - take a "hack" - a thing you cut those trenches. ... a beveling thing, half round and open  on one end. Cut cross the tree, from one end to middle. * called "first streak" - Streak tree once a week. - three streaks will supply enough turp. to fill a 3" deep cup - hold a quart. Have a crew of men called "dippers" - have a five gallon can and a flat paddle - scrape turp. out of cup into bucket - take bucket to 55 gallon barrels.
280		<p>Rosenberg verfus on streaking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - V shaped cut  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - called "chipping boxes" - chip above each streak
311		 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3-4 weeks would fill the cup
312		<p>Tree is cut after that. Use a "puller"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a longer hack to keep going on a tree.
320		<p>Tree cut and use for logs, etc.</p>
331	"Cat Face"	<p>"Cat Face" is another name for streak</p>
335	Lawrence Williams	<p>meet man sitting with us.</p>
341		<p>No names for tools. hack, apron, puller standard. using acid</p>

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357	Boss Williams (or JA) Morris	Whites and Blacks. to - worked together - Williams owned and Morris owned after Williams died - Blacks were laborers
379		Entertainment men? - frolics (square dances) * sometimes got rowdy * some moonshining when stilling kettle was brand new.
399	Joe Kelly Pensacola	On Joe Kelly and turpentine quarters in Noma. Kettles came ^{from} for Pensacola.
416		On cooling turpentine - similar to liquor stilling process. Turpentine on top and water on bottom. Cool water out to get raw gum.
TURN TAPE		
000		Stilling cont'd.
028	Proctor + Gamble	Shipping turpentine for use in soap making, medicines
036	"dross"	Spirits by-product. Skinned off of rosin when hot. Used to be used as kindling - burns like gasoline